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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

February 27, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

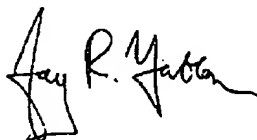
RE: REPLY TO JANUARY 8, 2003 FINAL OFFICE ACTION
SERIAL # 09/725,728; ART UNIT 1745; FILED NOVEMBER 29, 2000;
TITLE: FUEL CELL CONTROL AND MEASUREMENT APPARATUS AND METHOD,
USING DIELECTRIC CONSTANT MEASUREMENTS

Dear Sir:

Attached please find an eight (8) page reply to the above-referenced office action. This reply is being submitted within two months of the January 8, 2003 final office action. No additional fees are due at this time.

By and with this reply, I hereby request further examination and consideration of this application, with the amendments submitted, described and supported herein.

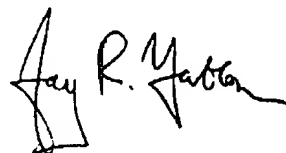
Very Truly Yours,



Jay R. Yablon
Registration # 30604

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office Fax Number 703-872-9311 on the transmission date of February 27, 2003, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.8.

Name of Person signing this certificate: Jay R. Yablon

(signature)

MTIP001US

Serial Number: 09/725,728
Art Unit: 1745
Filing Date: 11/29/2000
Examiner: Johathan S. Crepeau
Title of Invention: Fuel Cell Control and Measurement Apparatus
and Method, using Dielectric Constant Measurements
Inventor: Acker et al.

DETAILED REPLY TO JANUARY 8, 2003 FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Following is a detailed reply to the above-referenced office action.

5 **REQUEST FOR TELEPHONE INTERVIEW BEFORE SUBSEQUENT OFFICE ACTION**

This reply is being submitted within two months of the January 8, 2003 final office action. If any issues remain prior to this application being fully in condition for allowance, applicants hereby respectfully request a telephone interview
10 with Examiner Jonathan S. Crepeau to resolve any such remaining issues and hopefully avoid the need for issuing an advisory action thus expediting prosecution toward allowance.

In particular, as applicants' counsel discussed with Examiner Crepeau on February 26, 2003, in the event that
15 examiner feels that the after-final amendments set forth with this reply *cannot* be formally entered, applicants' counsel would appreciate a telephone interview with Examiner Crepeau before preparation of an advisory action, so that counsel has the opportunity to authorize further actions which may expedite
20 prosecution of this application toward allowance.

Of course, it is applicants' hope that these amendments will be entered, and these amended claims allowed. In the event that these amendments are formally entered, counsel would also